

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT A 02245 231457Z

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2731

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 2245

EO 11652 N/A

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO JACK ANDERSON'S COLUMN OF AUGUST 4

REF: STATE 205188

1. CONTENT AND TEXT LETTER FURNISHED REFTEL EXCELLENT. ONE SLIGHT FACTUAL ERROR INCLUDED SECOND PART PARA 11. ONLY 4 AMERICANS FUNDED BY A.I.D. CURRENTLY IN HAITI ARE PERMANENTLY STATIONED AT PROJECT SITES OUTSIDE PORT-AU-PRINCE. THESE ARE EMPLOYEES OF 3 DIFFERENT CONTRACTS (WITH 1 IN GONAIVES AND 3 IN CAYES). NUMBERS STATIONED OUTSIDE CAPITAL WILL INCREASE IN NEAR FUTURE AS MAJOR NEW PROJECTS REACH IMPLEMENTATION STAGE AND INTERMEDIARIES ARE SELECTED AND ARRIVE.

2. HOWEVER FAIR TO SAY ALREADY THAT OVER HALF OF TOTAL MAN-DAYS OF AMERICAN AID FINANCED PERSONNEL ARE SPENT OUTSIDE PORT AU PRINCE, INCLUDING CONTRACT PERSONNEL FOR PERIODS RANGING FROM 2-3 DAYS AT A TIME TO SEVERAL CONSECUTIVE WEEKS. CASES IN POINT ARE CONTRACT PERSONNEL DOING IRRIGATION FEASIBILITY STUDIES IN NORTH WEST, SOUTH WEST, AND SOUTH EAST; ROAD MAINTENANCE ADVISERS COVERING OUTLYING DISTRICTS; CONTRACT ENGINEER COFFEE PROJECT, ETC.

3. BETTER STATEMENT WOULD READ QUOTE ABOUT HALF OF ALL MAN DAYS OF AMERICANS FUNDED BY AID IN HAITI ARE NOW SPENT AT PROJECT SITES OUTSIDE PORT AU PRINCE AND INCREASING NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ARE PERMANENTLY STATIONED IN THE FIELD AT OR NEAR THEIR PROJECT SITES.

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Disposition Event:
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